

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13 (cancelled)

14. (New) A method of fixing an oligonucleotide or a polynucleotide to a solid carrier which comprises the steps of spotting an aqueous solution containing a hydrophilic polymer and a compound selected from the group consisting of the oligonucleotide and polynucleotide onto the solid carrier, washing the carrier, drying the carrier, and heating or exposing to radiation the carrier.

15. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the oligonucleotide or the polynucleotide is fixed to the solid carrier at its one end portion.

16. (New) The method of Claim 14, which further comprises the steps of washing the carrier resulting from the spotting step and drying the carrier resulting from the washing step prior to heating or exposing the carrier to radiation.

17. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the solid carrier is selected from the group consisting of a glass sheet, a silicon sheet and a polymer sheet.

18. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the solid carrier is a glass sheet.

19. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the glass sheet is pre-treated with poly-L-lysine, polyethylene imine or polyalkylamine.

20. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the glass sheet is pre-treated with a silane coupling agent having an amino group, an aldehyde group or an epoxy group.

21. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the oligonucleotide or the polynucleotide has a functional group selected from the group consisting of an amino group, an aldehyde group, a thiol group and a biotin group.

22. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is a nonionic polymer or a cationic polymer.

23. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is a cellulose derivative.

24. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylamide, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol and saccharide.

25. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the aqueous solution contains the hydrophilic polymer in an amount of 0.1 to 2.0 vol.%.